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WIMBORNE AND CRANBORNE RURAL DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
1952.


WIMBORNE AND CRANBORNE RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR - 1952.



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Public Health Department,
Civic Centre,
Wimborne.

TO:-

The Chairman and Councillors of the Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District:-

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District. The Report is presented as follows:-

- A. Vital Statistics.
- B. General Provisions of Health Service in the Area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area:-
 - 1. Water.
 - 2. Sewerage.
 - 3. Dry Refuse and Rodent Control.
- D. Factories and Workshops.
- E. Housing
- F. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- G. Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their kindness and consideration. I have much appreciated the help and co-operation given to me by the staff of the Public Health Department, officials in other departments, and by my professional colleagues in practice in the area.

J.B.M. Mayes.

JULY, 1953.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

<u>CHAIRMAN:</u> *	Councillor D.C. Trehane.	J.P.
<u>VICE-CHAIRMAN:</u> -	Councillor T.H. Sutton.	J.P.

COUNCILLORS:-

C.W. Brewer.		Rev'd. W.R. Buckett.
Major V.G. Cole.		W.S. Cornick.
Lady Lettice Ashley-Cooper.		H.S. Craven.
E.C.V. Dibben.		L.B. Gauntlett.
F.J. Harper.		E. Haskell.
G. Haskell.		P. Hibberd.
E.S.P. Hooper.		Mrs. L.M. Hopper.
A.E. Jolliffe.		F. Morris.
R. Parke.		C.K. Pattle.
E.H. Pratt.		Col. T.S. Rendall.
W.R. Ricketts.		F.C. Rowe.
R.S. Rowe.		Major W.N. Seymour.
J.S. Sheasby.		J.C. Shearing.
F. Smith.		Mrs. R.D.N. Somerset.
B.T. Soppit.		C.R. Stone.
R.C. Tubbs.		Col. W.E. Vaudrey.
G.H. Wakefield.	W. L. Young.	Col. P.J.K. Warren.
R.A. Welch,		A.H. White.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J.B.M. Mayes, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S., D.P.H

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

W.R. Chick. M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR

D.C. Mulley. M.S.I.A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of district.....	80, 868 acres
Population as estimated 30th June, 1952.....	21, 560
Total number of inhabited houses (from Rate Book) approximate.....	6, 997
Rateable value at 1st April, 1952.....	£115,519
The sum represented by penny rate.....	£ 459.11.4.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1952.
As supplied by the Registrar General

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total registered.....	148	132	280
Legitimate.....	140	121	261
Illegitimate.....	8	11	19
<u>STILBIRTHS</u>			
Total registered.....	3	3	6
Legitimate.....	2	3	5
Illegitimate.....	1	0	1
<u>DEATHS</u>			
Total registered.....	136	137	273
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE</u>			
Total registered.....	3	6	9
Legitimate.....	3	6	9
<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS OF AGE</u>			
Total registered.....	3	6	9
Legitimate.....	3	6	9

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Winborne and Cranborne
Rural District.

England and
Wales.

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated home population.....	12.99.	15.3.
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated home population using comparability factor..	15.06	
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 estimated home population.....	.28	0.35.
Death rate per 1,000 estimated home population.....	12.66.	11.3
Death rate per 1,000 estimated home population using comparability factor..	9.50	
Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.....	32.14.	27.6

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING
1952.
 (Supplied by the Registrar)
General.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	2	0	2
Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis.....	0	1	1
Cancer.....	25	22	47
Leukaemia.....	2	1	3
Diabetes.....	0	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	17	19	36
Coronary disease.....	23	16	39
Hypertension with heart disease.....	4	8	12
Other heart disease.....	18	24	42
Other circulatory disease.....	8	14	22
Influenza.....	0	1	1
Pneumonia.....	3	2	5
Bronchitis.....	5	2	7
Other diseases of respiratory system.....	4	1	5
Ulcer stomach and duodenum.....	1	2	3
Motor vehicle accidents.....	2	0	2
All other causes.....	22	22	44

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

In 1952, 280 children were born compared with 310 in 1951. Six Stillbirths were recorded in 1952 compared with six in 1951 and seven in 1950. The crude birth rate was 12.99 per 1,000 estimated home population. By applying the comparability factor of 1.16, the standardised birth rate was 15.06.

DEATHS

273 persons died in 1952 compared with 300 the previous year, of these 273, 136 men, 137 women, 164 were over 70 years of age.

The crude death rate was 12.66 per 1,000 estimated home population. By applying the comparability factor of 0.75, the standardised death rate was 9.50.

The comparability factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar General. The purpose of this factor is to level out differences of age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts and enables more accurate comparisons to be made of birth and death rates in other areas.

There were no deaths from diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever, meningococcal infections, nor from poliomyelitis. There were no maternal deaths.

SECTION B
GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance Service of the District is under the jurisdiction of the Dorset County Council, operating from the Civic Centre, Wimborne, and from Ferndown. A day and night service is maintained.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES.

The Staff of the Public Health Laboratories at Dorchester and Boscombe have given the district very generous service. They undertake the examination of specimens for the diagnosis of cases or suspected carriers of any infectious disease, and the bacteriological examination of water, milk, ice cream etc.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Dorset County Council provide an Infant Welfare Centre once a week in Wimborne, twice a month in Ferndown and Verwood, and once a month at Sixpenny Handley.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

The Dorset County Council provide an Ante-Natal Clinic twice a month in Wimborne.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

A Home Help Service is provided by the Dorset County Council and has continued to give good service in the district.

SECTION C
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER

The Bournemouth and District Water Company, being statutory water undertakers for part of the Rural District, supply the parishes of Colehill, Hampreston, West Parley and part of Pamphill. The completion of main extensions in these have provided a supply of wholesome water in pipes to all parts of the Company's area where it could be provided at reasonable cost.

Corfe Mullen, Shapwick and Sturminster Marshall are within the Statutory area of the Borough of Poole. The majority of the houses in the Parish of Corfe Mullen are supplied with piped water. The completion of the extension to Mill Street, Corfe Mullen, has been held up owing to non-delivery of pipes, but it is understood the work will be commenced at an early date.

The development of Poole's new source of supply is progressing. This will enable piped supplies to be afforded to all properties in the developed areas of Shapwick and Sturminster Marshall.

Small extensions of mains to meet housing needs have been carried out at Alderholt and Verwood. Much more progress was made in main laying by direct labour during the year under review, thereby increasing the piped area of supply in the parishes of Alderholt and Cranborne and affording piped water to part of Edmondsham. Water is purchased in bulk from the West Hants Water Co., to supply Alderholt, a deep borehole adequately supplies Cranborne, whilst Verwood is partly fed from springs on Boveridge Heath, Verwood, and during the summer months partly from a bulk supply taken from the West Hants Water Company's mains at Three Legged Cross.

The completion of the "link up" of mains between Cranborne and Alderholt, which it is hoped to complete next year, will permit the maximum amount of water to be taken from the Council's own source at Cranborne with a corresponding reduction in bulk purchase of water at Alderholt.

During 1952, the booster equipment and the above average yields from the springs on the heath at Verwood, enabled the bulk supply of water taken at Three Cross, to be kept to reasonable limits for the second year in succession.

Private piped supplies serve the majority of the properties in the parishes of Hinton Martell, Long Crichel, Moor Crichel and Witchampton. Unsatisfactory reports on samples taken from the sources at Hinton Martell and Witchampton were received but improvement was noted after cleansing and chlorinating the source, reservoir and supply pipes at Witchampton, and by fencing off a larger area around the source and chlorinating the storage tank and supply pipes at Hinton Martell. These private sources will, however, be abandoned, and the areas supplied, either in bulk or direct from the Council's Regional Scheme when this comes into operation.

The approximate population with piped water available is 15,000, whilst 7,000 or more persons are dependent on shallow wells or stored rainwater.

617 properties are supplied with piped water at Verwood, 130 properties at Cranborne and 176 at Alderholt. All have water laid on to the houses with the exception of a few temporary structures at Verwood and cottages at Alderholt, which are served by standpipes on site.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS OF SAMPLES TAKEN FROM PRIVATE AND PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

PARISH	PRIVATE				PUBLIC			
	1.	2.	3.	4.	1.	2.	3.	4.
Alderholt				1	9			
Colchill.	9	2	1	14	7			
Chalbury.			1	11				
Corfe Mullen.	1	1		6	9			
Cranborne.	1	1			10			
Crichel.	3	3	4	1				
Hampreston.	2			1				
Hinton Martell.	4	1	2	14				
Holt.	1	0	1	3	4	3	1	
Horton.	2	1	3	12				
Pontridge.	1		1					
Shapwick.	1			1				
Sixpenny Handley.	4	6	2	4				
Sturminster Marshall.	1	2	2	14	11			2
Verwood.				1	20			
Woodlands.	1							
Woodyates.	1							
West Parley.	1		2	7				
Wimborne St. Giles.	3		2	11	4	1	1	2
Witchampton.	7	3	6	16	4	3	0	1

The following parishes have no main water supply:-

Chalbury, Gussage St. Michaels, Hinton Martell, Horton, Crichel, Sixpenny Handley, Woodlands, Holt, Shapwick and Woodyates.

Explanation of the standards and classification of water. Based on presumptive findings.

Non-chlorinated piped supplies. Presumptive coli-aerogenes count per 100 ml.

Class 1....	Highly satisfactory	- less than 1.
Class 2....	Satisfactory.	- 1 - 2
Class 3....	Suspicious.	- 3 -10
Class 4....	Unsatisfactory	- greater than 10

Throughout the year 50 per cent of samples should fall into Class 1; 80 per cent should not fall below Class 2; and the remainder should not fall below Class 3. In chlorinated piped supplies the water should fall into Class 1.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

In April the Cranborne Sewerage Disposal Plant was formally opened. Progress in connecting properties to the new sewers has been very slow.

Owing to the high underground water table and occasional flooding in the village of West Moors drainage troubles are frequent and very difficult to overcome. The Council was advised that this scheme and similar small schemes in Verwood, Corfe Mullen and Sturminster Marshall would have to remain in abeyance for some years.

The postponement of main drainage schemes renders the work of the Sanitary Inspectors increasingly difficult when dealing with complaints arising from unsatisfactory drainage. In many instances there is no remedy except main drainage, the heavy nature of the sub-soil coupled in many places with high underground water table make irrigation methods impracticable for long periods.

This unsatisfactory state of affairs is causing concern as increasing development is occurring in areas where drainage is very unlikely to be satisfactory.

SCAVENGING

Owing to the loss of market for waste paper and cardboard, the amount tipped during the year has increased. The drop in revenue from the sales of salvage has increased the net cost of the refuse collection service and an improvement in the market seems unlikely.

RODENT CONTROL

The Rodent Operator has continued to give useful service throughout the year. The infestations of rats found in dwelling houses and business properties have been light, no major infestation has occurred. It has been found that there is an increase in the number of rats where owners of domestic livestock have not taken sufficient care.

<u>RAT INFESTATION</u>	<u>Council</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>Private</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>Business</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total number of visits made by staff of premises inspected.	14	1431	393	1838
Total number of premises inspected:-				
a. on complaint.	4	105	80	189
b. on survey		1326	313	1339
Total number of premises found infested.				
a. on complaint.	4	103	10	117
b. on survey.	10	50	30	90
Number of premises treated.	14	200	29	243
Number of premises cleared.	8	140	26	174
Number of premises re-treated and cleared.	6	40	12	58
Number of pre-baits laid.	700	3285	1030	5015
Number of poison baits laid.	20	112	89	221
Number of post baits laid.	90	130	80	300
Estimated number of rats destroyed.	230	2003	2000	4233.
Number of bodies recovered.	40	1250	600	1890
<u>MICE INFESTATION</u>				
Number of complaints received.	6	12	8	26
Number of premises treated.	6	12	8	26
Number of premises cleared.		10	10	20

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The cleansing service operated by the Public Health Department has been in considerable demand and in spite of heavy increases in running and labour costs, this service has managed to pay its way.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Due to Government restrictions on capital expenditure no progress has been made in the provision of conveniences.

MORTUARY

No progress has been made towards the provision of a public mortuary. Allowance is to be made in next year's estimates for the existing mortuary building at Kingston Lacy to receive minimum repairs and equipment.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, (Amendment) Act, 1951
Removal of persons in need of care and attention.

Male, aged, infirm, living in insanitary conditions in outhouse, unable to look after himself and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention, was removed to St. Marys Hospital, Poole, on February 8th, he died on February 26th.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

One owner of a Pet Shop and two persons dealing in goldfish and other aquatic stock have been registered under the above Act.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two upholsterers' premises are registered under the above Act.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Twelve Dairies are registered in the area.
Licences issued:-

Dealer's Licence	Tuberculin Tested.....	6
	Pastourised.....	7
Supplementary Licence.....	Tuberculin Tested.....	4
	Pastourised.....	4

SECTION D	
FACORIES AND WORKSHOPS.	
Number of factories registered in the district.....	83
Number of inspections made during the year.....	81

The Factories Act, 1937 - Part One of the Act.

<u>PREMISES.</u>	<u>Number on Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>
1. Factories in which no mechanical power is used.....	19	6
2. Factories in which mechanical power is used.....	63	74
3. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	1	1
TOTAL.....	83	81

Number of cases in which defects were found:-

	<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
1.	Want of cleanliness.....	1	1
2.	Ineffective drainage of floors.....	1	1
3.	Sanitary conveniences (unsuitable or defective).....	3	3
4.	Other offences against the Act.....	Nil	Nil

OUTWORKERS

There were 21 outworkers employed during 1952. No infectious disease occurred during the year in any of the premises where outworkers were employed.

SECTION E HOUSING

During 1952 a detailed survey was made of 444 dwellings which were classified as follows:-

Category 1 (houses reasonably fit in all respects)....	221
Category 2 (houses needing minor repairs).....	117
Category 3 (houses needing major repairs).....	38
Category 5 (houses impossible to repair at reasonable cost).....	68

Thus bringing the total number surveyed to date to 2039. The classification of these premises is set out below:-

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>					<u>Total.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>5.</u>	<u>Others.</u>		
Alderholt.	43	42	15	13		113	C
Chalbury		2	2	1		5	
Colehill.	318	148	52	61		579	C
Corfe Mullen.	94	41	33	8		176	
Cranborne.	28	64	18	12		122	C
Edmondsham.	4	24	3	2	1	34	C
Gussage All Saints.		1	6	9	2	18	
Gussage St. Michael.	4	12	12	3	3	34	C
Hampreston.	16	14	11	12		53	
Hinton Martell.		2	3	2		7	
Hinton Parva.		1	1			2	
Holt.		7	7	3		17	
Horton.	7	12	5	45		65	C
Long Crichel.				1		1	
Moor Crichel.		1	1			2	
Pamphill.	46	28	24	54		152	C
Pentridge.	12	21	14	6	2	55	C
Shapwick.		7	12	40		59	C
Sixpenny Handley.	55	36	39	39	1	170	C
Sturminster Marshall.	74	47	20	22		163	
Verwood.	5	5	7	6		23	
West Parley	12	21	7	6		46	
Wimborne St. Giles.	3	20	35	11	1	70	C
Witchampton.	1	3	4	5		13	
Woodlands.	4	8	16	30	2	60	C
TOTAL.	722	567	347	391	12	2039	"C" parish survey completed.

Statutory Action

Notices of time and place served.....	16
Demolition order or closing order made.....	8
Undertakings given re future use.....	1
Undertakings given to repair.....	10
Repairs carried out in accordance with undertakings.	
(a) given 1952.....	6
(b) given prior to 1952.....	2
Premises demolished.	
(a) by owner.....	3
(b) by Council.....	3
Premises demolished by owner after informal action.....	2

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Two improvement grants have been made during the year and a further application has been provisionally approved.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Number of camping sites in the area covering 131 caravans.....	4
Number of licences issued in 1952 to station moveable dwellings.....	113

SECTION FINSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODMILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949

The Sanitary Inspectors and Sampling Officers of the County Council have taken routine samples of milk, either produced or distributed in the area. A summary is given below:-

<u>Alderholt</u>		
6 samples taken.	2 non designated 2 accredited 2 pasteurised.	all satisfactory.
<u>Bailey Gate</u>		
91 samples taken.	91 pasteurised.	all satisfactory
<u>Colchill</u>		
5 samples taken.	3 non designated. 2 pasteurised.	3 satisfactory 2 satisfactory .
<u>Corfe Mullen</u>		
1 sample taken.	1 pasteurised.	satisfactory
<u>Edmondsham</u>		
2 samples taken.	1 non designated. 1 T.T.	satisfactory satisfactory
<u>Farnham</u>		
5 samples taken.	2 non designated. 2 accredited. 1 pasteurised.	2 satisfactory 2 satisfactory Satisfactory.
<u>Gussages.</u>		
5 samples taken	1 accredited. 4 T.T.	satisfactory 4 satisfactory
<u>Hampreston</u>		
74 samples taken.	13 non designated. 59 pasteurised. 2 T.T.	12 satisfactory 56 satisfactory 2 satisfactory
<u>Holt</u>		
2 samples taken.	2 T.T.	2 satisfactory

	Grade 1.	Grade 2.	Grade 3.	Grade 4.
<u>Verwood.</u>				
29 samples taken.....	19	6	1	3
<u>Holt</u>				
7 samples taken.....	6	1	-	-
<u>West Parley</u>				
30 samples taken.....	26	3	1	-

In Hampreston parish, all samples marked Grade 4 came from one premises. Similar conditions occurred in Corfe Mullen. In both cases the maker of ice cream was changed and no further sample came into this category. Grade 4 samples from Verwood were re-checked and the later ones proved satisfactory

Provisional Grades of Ice Cream

Provisional Grade.

Time taken to reduce methylene blue

Grade 1.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more.
2.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 hours.
3.	$\frac{1}{2}$ - 2 hours
4.	0

NOTE:-

Judgment should be based on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period, 50 per cent of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent into Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

MEAT INSPECTION

At present there is no slaughter house operating within the Rural District. By 1954 it is anticipated the Ministry of Food will have completed building a large abattoir at Uddens. Work began on the site in December.

The opening of this abattoir will necessitate the appointment of a number of meat inspectors. It is very important the number should be sufficient to enable each carcass to be adequately inspected.

The following food was condemned during the year, seven condemnation certificates issued:-
45 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs New Zealand Beef, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs Ox Liver (Australian), 21 lb 10 ozs. Ox Tails.

Home Killed

44 lbs beef, 28 lbs beast head, 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs kidney, 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs mutton.

Miscellaneous.

10 tins pork luncheon meat, 34 tins luncheon meat, 14 lbs veal and ham loaf, 6 lbs tin jellied veal, 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs boneless ham, 24 tins miscellaneous goods, 6 lbs national butter, 585 lbs frozen turkeys, 1 lb cheese, 7 lbs prawns.

Food and Catering Premises.

The desirability of carrying out regular visits to food premises has been stressed and it is hoped to increase the amount of time spent on this work in the future.

During this year some improvement has been observed in the general hygiene of food premises. To raise the standard of hygiene to the required level, some premises need repeated visits. Unfortunately the two Sanitary Inspectors have so much already to do that this additional work would mean a reduction of work in some direction.

SECTION G
PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases notified during the year:-

Whooping Cough.....	119
Scarlet fever.....	2
Measles.....	46
Acute Pneumonia.....	26
Erysipelas.....	4
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1
Malaria.....	1
Dysentery.....	7

TUBERCULOSIS

On the 31st December, 1952, the following numbers appeared in the Tuberculosis Register:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
47	36	11	11

During the year, nine new pulmonary cases have been notified and three non-pulmonary.

There has been no outbreak of food poisoning during the year.

Room disinfection was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector on eleven occasions and bedding of eleven patients was disinfected by the Alderney Hospital, Poole.

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN AREA

<u>Years.</u>	<u>Whooping Cough.</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever.</u>	<u>Measles.</u>	<u>Acute Pneumonia.</u>	<u>Erysipelas.</u>	<u>Puerperal Pyrexia.</u>	<u>Malaria</u>	<u>Dysentery</u>
Under 1	7		2					
1 - 2	21		4					
3 - 4	37		12					2
5 - 9	47	2	25	4				1
10- 14	3			2				
15- 44	4		3	7	1	1	1	4
45- 64				8	3			
65 and over.				5				

